

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/551,641	GOTANI, HIROYUKI	
	Examiner THOMAS H. STEVENS	Art Unit 2121	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the application filed 09/29/2005.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 12/29/2005 & 09/29/2005
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 were examined and allowed.

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, as per MPEP § 2111.01, In re Sneed, 710 F.2d 1544, 1548, 218 USPQ 385 (Fed. Cir. 1983), the invention discloses a space is formed of XYZ coordinate axes, the master comprises: an distal operation (pg.3, line 9)section that is to be held by a finger of the operator; a first sensor (pg. 3, line 10) that detects a pressure applied on the distal operation (pg.3, line 9)section by the finger of the operator; a second sensor (pg. 3, line 12) that detects movement of the distal operation (pg.3, line 9)section along an orientation of an X-axis (pg. lines 13-14); a third sensor (pg. 3, line 12) that detects movement of the distal operation (pg.3, line 9)section along an orientation of a Y-axis; a fourth sensor (pg. 3, lines 15-16) that detects movement of the distal operation (pg.3, line 9)section in along an orientation of a Z-axis; a fifth sensor (pg. 3, line 17) that detects rotation of the distal operation (pg.3, line 9)section about the Z-axis; a sixth sensor that detects flexion/extension of a wrist of the operator; a seventh sensor (pg. 3, line 20)that detects ulnar/radial deviation (pg. 3, line 20) of the wrist of the operator (pg. 3, lines 20-21); and an eighth sensor (pg. 3, line 21)that detects rotation of the wrist of the operator; and when an orientation of forward/backward movement (pg. 3, lines 22-23) of the holder is indicated by Z'-axis, and axes each of which are orthogonal to the

Z'-axis are indicated by an X'-axis and a Y'-axis, the X'Y'Z' coordinate axes being an orthogonal coordinate system (pg. 9, lines 17-18) , the slave comprises an arm supporting the holder (pg. 3, lines 6-7); the holder comprises a nipping section for pinching an operation appliance or an affected area (pg. 3, lines 27-29), and a base section supporting the nipping section (pg.3, line 29); the nipping section increases/reduces a degree of pinching in reaction (pg.13, lines 7-9) to the pressure applied to the distal operation (pg.3, line 9)section and detected by the first sensor; the base section moves respectively along orientations of the X', Y', and/or Z' axes corresponding to respective movement amounts detected (pg. 4, lines 1-5) by the second sensor (pg. 3, line 12) to the fourth sensor, and rotates about the Z'-axis corresponding to a rotation amount detected by the fifth sensor (pg. 4, lines 3-5); and the arm rotates on respective joints in the arm corresponding to amount and orientation of movement detected by the sixth sensor (pg. 4, lines 5-9) and by the seventh sensor, and rotates on an inner axis in accordance with a rotation amount detected by the eighth sensor (pg. 4, lines 5-9), to which none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mr. Tom Stevens whose telephone number is 571-272-3715.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact examiner's supervisor Mr. Albert Decady (571-272-3819). The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.. Answers to questions regarding access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) (toll-free (866-217-9197)).

/Albert Decady /  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Tech Center 2100